

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 127007

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PARM, UNGA, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET NON-USE OF FORCE PROPOSAL

1. DURING CALL AT DEPARTMENT ON MAY 31, SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN GAVE ACTING SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER NON-PAPER ON MOSCOW'S PROPOSAL FOR TREATY OUTLAWING USE OF FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. PAPER REPEATS STANDARD SOVIET ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF TREATY AND SEEKS US SUPPORT FOR SOVIET PROPOSAL AT UPCOMING 32ND SESSION OF THE UNGA.

2. ACTING SECRETARY RESPONDED TO SOVIET PRESENTATIYN ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

-- NON-USE OF FORCE TREATY WOULD DISTRACT ATTENTION FROM
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REAL ARMS CONTROL MEASURES.

-- UN CHARTER ALREADY CONTAINS PROHIBITION ON USE OF FORCE.
WE ARE SKEPTICAL OF NEED TO RESTATE PRINCIPLE AND FEAR THAT
RESTATEMENT COULD WEAKEN EXISTING INTERNATIONAL OBLIGA-
TIONS UNDER CHARTER.

-- RATHER THAN MAKING RHETORICAL STATEMENTS, WE SHOULD
REDOUBLE OUR EFFORTS TO MAKE CONCRETE PROGRESS IN ARMS

CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WOULD BACK UP OUR COMMITMENT TO PEACE WITH MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL, ADEQUATELY VERIFIABLE ARMS CONTROL MEASURES.

3. TEXT OF SOVIET NON-PAPER:

BEGIN TEXT: AT PRESENT, WHEN THE STATES OF THE WORLD HAVE NO OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE TO INTENSIFYING EFFORTS FOR ACHIEVING A LASTING PEACE, THE CONCLUSION OF WORLD TREATY ON THE NON-USE OF FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROPOSED BY THE USSR, IS AN URGENT TASK OF THE WORLD POLICY OF TODAY, TO THE REALIZATION OF WHICH ALL PEACE-LOVING STATES CAN AND SHOULD MAKE THEIR CONTRIBUTION.

A WIDE SUPPORT OF THE IDEA OF CONCLUDING SUCH A TREATY CREATES NECESSARY PREREQUISITES FOR PROCEEDING WITHOUT DELAY TO PRACTICAL REALIZATION OF THE SOVIET PROPOSAL. A CONSIDERABLE WORK IN THIS DIRECTION COULD BE DONE AT THE FORTHCOMING 32ND SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

THE SOVIET SIDE COUNTS ON THE COOPERATION OF THE UNITED STATES IN AN EARLY WORKING OUT OF THE TEXT OF THE WORLD TREATY. THE RELEVANT RESOLUTION OF THE 31ST SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE SUBJECT STIPULATES THAT THE UN MEMBER STATES WILL COMMUNICATE TO THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL THEIR OPINIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS ON THIS QUESTION BY JUNE 1, 1977. WE HOPE THAT THE US SIDE WILL COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION AND WILL TAKE A CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO THE QUESTION OF CONCLUDING WORLD TREATY ON THE NON-USE OF FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

THE HISTORY OF SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SOVIET AND THE US SIDES, BOTH ON A BILATERAL BASIS AND WITHIN THE UN IN PREPARING, FOR EXAMPLE, THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW CONCERNING FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND COOPERATION BETWEEN STATES, AND THE DEFINITION OF AGGRESSION, GIVES REASON TO HOPE THAT SUCH COOPERATION WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE WITH REGARD TO THE CONCLUSION OF WORLD TREATY ON THE NON-USE OF FORCE. THE CONCLUSION OF SUCH A TREATY IS AIMED AT STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND ELIMINATING THE THREAT OF A NEW WORLD WAR, AND IT IS A DUTY OF ALL PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO MAKE A TANGIBLE CONTRIBUTION TO ACHIEVING THIS HISTORICAL GOAL.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS TREATY WOULD FULLY CORRESPOND TO THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE STATES

UNDER THE UN CHARTER, WOULD PROVIDE MORE RELIABLE GUARANTEES OF SECURITY FOR ALL STATES AND WOULD EXTEND FURTHER THE MAIN PROVISION OF THE CHARTER - THE NECESSITY TO REFRAIN FROM USE OF FORCE OR THREAT OF USE OF FORCE.

THE CONCLUSION OF THE TREATY WOULD PROVIDE A MORE SOUND BASIS FOR A BROAD, EQUAL AND MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS COOPERATION BETWEEN THE STATES AND WOULD NOT AFFECT ADVERSELY A SINGLE ONE OF THEM.

IT WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE ESTABLISHED AND USEFUL PRACTICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS UNDER WHICH SOME GENERAL PRINCIPLES STATED IN THE UN CHARTER WERE THEN INCORPORATED IN A NUMBER OF DECLARATIONS, INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS, AGREEMENTS AND TREATIES.

WE HOPE THAT THE US SIDE WILL DEMONSTRATE THE SAME SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WHICH HELPED TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENTS WITHIN THE UN ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES, AND WILL TAKE A CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSTRUCTIVE POSITION IN THE DISCUSSION OF THE QUESTION OF WORLD TREATY ON NON-USE OF FORCE AT THE 32ND SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. END TEXT.
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